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2 ***Special/ Work Session Minutes for January 10, 2005***  
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4 *A Special/Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia, Bergen*  
5 *County, New Jersey, was held this evening in the Borough Hall Annex, commencing at*  
6 *7:30pm*  
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8 ***Council Present:*** *Mayor Laurence Cherchi, Council Dwarica*  
9 *Councilwoman Heveran, Councilwoman Mitrani, Councilman*  
10 *Puzzo Councilman Ryan, Councilman Presdident Trachtenberg,*  
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12 ***Council Absent:*** *none*  
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14 ***Also Present:*** *Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk, David Russo, Borough Attorney,*  
15 *Victoria Miragliotta, Borough Administrator*  
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17 Mayor Laurence Cherchi called the meeting to order.  
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19 Mayor Laurence Cherchi asked everyone to stand while Council President Trachetenberg  
20 led in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
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22 Mayor Laurence Cherchi, stated that the conditions of Open Public Meetings Act have  
23 been met by notice placed on the bulletin board at Borough Hall and notices sent to the  
24 official newspaper.  
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26 1. **Presentation**  
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28 Chief Jay Ziegler ns, President of the Sports Boosters gave a history the field  
29 house and construction progress to date.  
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31 Mr. Jim Tappen and Miss Lisa Haenelt discussed in the By-Laws.  
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33 2. **Approval of Minutes**  
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35 *Special Work Session November 1, 2004.* Motion was made to adopt minutes  
36 moved by Council President Dwarica, seconded by Councilwoman Heveran.  
37 Mayor Cherchi stated that on page 2 under Board of Education second paragraph  
38 line 11 should not be Ms Wanted should be Ms. Leoniard. Vote on minutes,  
39 Councilwoman Heveran yes, Councilwoman Mitrani abstain, Councilman Ryan  
40 yes, Councilman Puzzo yes, Councilman Trachtenberg yes Council President  
41 Dwarica yes. Motion passes, minutes adopted.  
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43 *Special Work Session Meeting November 8, 2004.* A motion was made to adopt  
44 the minutes moved by Council President Dwarica, seconded by Councilwoman  
45 Heveran. Vote on Minutes Councilwoman Heveran, yes; Councilwoman  
46 Mitarani, yes; Councilman Ryan, yes; Councilman Puzzo, yes; Councilman

Trachtenberg, yes; Council President Dwarica, yes. Motion passes, minutes adopted.

4. **Reports**

**Standing Committees**

Finance, Administration and Personnel - Councilman Trachtenberg would like to have the committee meet to discuss some issues; the Court would like to hire someone part-time for Court Proceedings; Recreation would like hire someone for maintenance.

Laws & Ordinances - Councilman Puzzo stated there was nothing to report at this time.

Police - Councilwoman Mitrani reported she met with Mr. Dorf and the arbitration hearing has been postponed until December 13, 2004. She also advised the Council that Mr. Dorf suggested she hold the letter regarding problems with the arbitration process until after the hearing. Councilwoman Mitrani also stated she is going to meet with Mr. Dressel at the League of Municipalities conference and that she had spoken to Mayor Michael Wildes from Englewood. He is interested in this topic.

Fire - Councilwoman Heveran reported on the number of calls for the month to date. She also announced that Mr. Ron Hillery was honored by the Knights of Columbus. Councilwoman Heveran also reported that she would like to bring forth Thomas Caruolo as a member of the Leonia Volunteer Fire Department.

Ambulance Corps - Councilman Trachtenberg explained the two entities of the Ambulance Corps and how each one functions.

Public Works – Councilman Ryan reported the roof at the Borough Hall Annex is being repaired. Councilman Ryan questioned the sewer easement between Glenwood and Hawthorne. The easement is partially paved and rutted, there are several garages on it. Mayor Cherchi explained that this is a Moore's Creek and it has underground pipes. It has been paved over and people have put their garages on it. Mayor Cherchi stated that we should look into the history of who maintains it.

Councilwoman Heveran questioned a bill for a door that in the past would have been paid out of Building and Grounds. This time, however, it was charged to the Fire Department. Borough Administrator stated she would look into it.

Real Estate & Insurance – Councilman Ryan stated there was nothing to report at this time.

Borough Administrator –The Borough Administrator reported that the roof on the Annex is being replaced and the HVAC at the Library is also being replaced. The curb at Fort Lee Road is repaired. The Gateway on Broad Avenue has been removed.

The lottery for the flu vaccine was held this morning and 150 Leonia's senior names were drawn. There maybe another drawing for the remaining names. Plumbing is inspector retiring at the end of the year. The Borough Administrator has received a couple of resumes.

She is working with Mr. Regan for resolution to all the benefits questions that have popped up recently and is hoping to resolve many of the issues. The Borough is waiting to hear from Mr. Khana regarding the cell tower. Elm Street pavers, will be addressed this week. Leonia Avenue needs to be addressed.

Mayor Cherchi – Mayor Cherchi reported that he and the Director of the Library met with Director of a library in Manhattan that is affiliated with the Spanish Government, and they have volunteered to allow our library and the school library to come in and review what they have. They are willing to donate duplicate books to us. This will help supplement the Spanish section of the Library. There will be a Special Closed Meeting with Mr. Regan next Monday November 22, 2004 at 6:30.

Special Bodies of the Borough – Councilwoman Heveran reported that Dominick Sussini is now the president of the Merchants Association.

## **5. Citizens**

No Citizens spoke at this time.

## **6. Resolutions**

Councilwoman Heveran asked to have Resolution 04-271 pulled for discussion. Councilman Ryan asked to have Resolution 07-2566 pulled for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Heveran, seconded by Councilman Puzzo to adopt Resolution 04-265, 268, 269, 270 and 272. Roll Call vote. All Council present voted yes, Resolutions adopted.

Councilman Ryan agrees with Councilwoman Heveran that in the light of recent events in town that the Neighborhood Watch signs should be left where they are. No further action will be taken on Resolution 04-266.

A discussion was held regarding the removal of signs and the inventory of signs that was done in the past. Mayor Cherchi stated he gave a copy to the Martha Lieblisch of the Environmental Commission.

Councilwoman Heveran asked for an explanation on Resolution 04-271, Borough Administrator gave an overview of the function of the Resolution. Councilwoman Heveran made a motion to approve Resolution 04-271 seconded by Councilman Trachtenberg on Roll Call Vote all Council Present voted yes. Resolution passed.

5. **Unfinished Business**

a. **Leonia Avenue**

A discussion was held by the Council as to the best way to handle the reconstruction of Leonia Avenue.

A motion was made by Councilman Puzzo and seconded by Councilman Ryan to go forward with the project and do whatever is necessary to do away with the request for a hold harmless agreement by the contractor and to have all the necessary changes done and have the project start immediately.

Councilman Puzzo made a motion to amend the original motion to have Mr. Gold fix the plans and act as engineer and get the job done by the end of the day, seconded by Councilwoman Heveran.

A motion to amend the motion was made by Councilwoman Mitrani that Mr. Gold not charge the Borough to fix the plans. No second.

Councilman Puzzo made a motion to amend the motion seconded by Councilwoman Heveran to have Mr. Gold do the inspection of Leonia Avenue at the normal hourly wage not to exceed \$5,000 and not charge for correcting the plans.

The Mayor asked to have a vote on each amendment.

Councilman Puzzo made a motion to withdraw all amendments and made a motion to have Mr. Gold be the engineer on the Leonia Avenue at the normal hourly wage for engineering not to exceed \$5,000, not charge for correcting the plans, have the contractor agree to no Hold Harmless Agreement and complete the job in 2004 seconded by Councilwoman Heveran. Roll Call Councilwoman Heveran, Councilwoman Mitrani, Councilman Puzzo, Councilman Ryan, and Council President Dwarica voted yes, Councilman Trachtenberg voted no. Motion Carries

b. **Jake Brake;** nothing new at this time.

c. **Antenna Ordinance-** The Antenna Ordinance will be adopted on Monday, December 6, 2004

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6. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Garage Sales;** Councilwoman Heveran reported that there seems to be selective enforcement where garage sales are concerned.

**Streetscape;** Councilwoman Mitrani reported that CFO Myrna Becker will be able to certify the purchase of the benches, garbage receptacles etc.

**Website Committee;** Councilman Trachtenberg reported that there isn't an ordinance to create the committee and would like the Borough Attorney to create one, similar to those governing other Committees, Commissions and Boards of the Borough.

**Spot Assessment Revaluation;** Mayor Cherchi explained the Spot Assessment process to the members of the Governing Body.

7. **Comments from Public**

No one spoke.

A motion to enter Closed Session Resolution R moved by Council President Dwarica seconded by Councilman Ryan. All in favor, no objections noted.

Motion to exit Closed Session moved by Council President Dwarica seconded by Councilman Puzzo, all in favor no objections noted.

A motion to adopt the closed Session Minutes of November 8, 2004 by Council President Dwarica seconded by Councilwoman Heveran. Roll Call Vote all in favor none opposed. Minutes adopted as amended.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Trachtenberg seconded by Councilman Ryan. All in favor. Inasmuch as there was no further discussion to take place before the Mayor and Council, this meeting adjourned at 10:47pm

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Lehmann  
Borough Clerk